



## **Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team Albuquerque, NM**

<b>Project Title</b>	Bernalillo County Empowerment Initiative
<b>Contact Information</b>	Michelle Watkins or Agnes Noonan 414 Silver Avenue SW Albuquerque, NM 87102 (505) 241-0738; (505) 241-4758
<b>Grant Amount</b>	\$146,500
<b>Nonfederal Support</b>	\$146,500
<b>Project Period</b>	September 2004 – September 2009
<b>Highlights</b>	The Bernalillo County Empowerment Initiative will serve 104 IDA participants in Bernalillo County, New Mexico. Participants are expected to save at least \$25 per month in their IDAs. The program will provide financial literacy training and match participant savings at a rate of \$4 to \$1, up to \$2,400. Participants may pay for business capitalization, homeownership, or post-secondary education with their IDA money.
<b>Target Population</b>	Low-income residents of Albuquerque and surrounding Bernalillo County, New Mexico, with a special focus on families who are receiving assistance through the Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, refugees, and residents of Albuquerque Public Housing and Albuquerque's Federally-designated Pocket of Poverty.
<b>Grantee/Collaborative Description</b>	<p>The Women's Economic Self-Sufficiency Team (WESST Corp) is a nonprofit organization that facilitates the start-up and growth of women-owned and minority-owned businesses throughout New Mexico. The organization's mission is to alleviate poverty in the State by helping low-income women and minorities achieve financial self-sufficiency through sustained self employment.</p> <p>The grantee will implement the project in partnership with the Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program, the Albuquerque Public Housing Authority, and the City of Albuquerque Department of Family and Community Services. The financial institution partner for this project is Wells Fargo, New Mexico.</p>